



Bridge Program

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

As part of the 2013 Job Growth Fund budget, the Department of Workforce Services (DWS) is offering a new program focused on small-business job creation. The Small Business Bridge Program (Bridge Program) provides a limited reimbursement opportunity to small businesses that incur training costs from the creation of new jobs. The Bridge Program provides a streamlined process to ensure businesses are not over burdened with difficult requirements.

The Bridge Program recognizes that the cost and time associated with advertising, interviewing, hiring and training a new employee can be prohibitive. This program will help to mitigate these costs for businesses with fewer than 100 employees.

The Bridge Program is funded by an existing source of revenue and will not require any new funding sources for operational or administrative costs. It is the intent of DWS to reinvest these funds strategically back into Utah's workforce to strengthen the economy. DWS will start accepting applications for the Bridge Program on August 20, 2012 until all money has been obligated or until February 28, 2013.

GUIDELINES

- Qualifying jobs must pay at least 80 percent of the County Small Business Average Wage.
- Each job created can qualify to receive \$3,000 to \$4,000, depending on wage.
- If a business hires a UI claimant to fill a new job, that business may qualify to receive an additional \$500.
- Businesses must create jobs, hire employees, be current on UI payments and taxes and request incentive payment by June 30, 2013.
- Newly created jobs cannot be seasonal or temporary and existing jobs cannot be terminated to make way for a new job.
- An agreement must be signed before a qualifying hire can occur.

APPLICATION

A business must fill out an application and submit it to DWS_BridgeProgram@utah.gov. Applications are available online. DWS will contact the business to verify the receipt of the application. DWS will also verify that the employment information on the application is correct according to the most recent Quarterly Unemployment Insurance Report.

Once information has been verified and the reimbursement amount determined, the business will be contacted by a Workforce Development Specialist to execute an agreement. Funding will be provided to a business after they have hired an employee to fill a position and have included the employee on one Quarterly Unemployment Insurance Report.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

For additional information, please contact the nearest Employment Center or call 1-888-920-9675. Additional information is available online at www.jobs.utah.gov/employer/bridge/index.html.



Department of Workforce Services

140 East 300 South Salt Lake City, Utah 84111 1-888-920-WORK jobs.utah.gov

Equal Opportunity Employer/Program.

Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. Call 801-526-9240. Individuals with speech or hearing impairments may call the state relay by dialing 711. Spanish Relay Utah: 1-888-346-3162.